

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Michel H. Malek  
Title: SPINE STABILIZATION  
SYSTEMS  
Appl. No.: 10/722,119  
Filing Date: 11/25/2003  
Examiner: David C. Comstock  
Art Unit: 3733  
Confirmation Number: 4839

**REPLY AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR. § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Comstock:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action, dated April 2, 2008, concerning the above-referenced patent application. Applicant notes that this response is being filed within two months of the mailing of a Final Office Action, and, thus, before the expiration of the advisory period. Applicant believes this response to be timely filed.

While Applicant believes that no fees are due with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.